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Theodore Roosevelt and his times. A chronicle of the new nationalism.

By Harold Howland. [The chronicles of America. Edited by Allen Johnson under the supervision of the committee on publications of the Yale university council.] (New Haven: Yale university press, 1921. 239 p.)

The career of Theodore Roosevelt was so many-sided and so full of human interest that although he has been dead only three years, probably more books have been written about him already than about any other American except George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. To this flood of biographies Harold Howland has added the volume under consideration.

As the book is in the *Chronicles of America* series, the author of necessity found himself restricted to writing a rather brief outline rather than an exhaustive work. Upon the whole, he has performed his task as well as the narrow limits assigned him would permit, and he has brought out the salient facts of Roosevelt's career in a readable way. For a considerable period the author and Colonel Roosevelt were associated together on the staff of the *Outlook*, and naturally Mr. Howland speaks with most authority concerning matters that fall within this period. Upon some of these matters he is able to cast interesting side lights. For example, he tells in considerable detail the story of the events that led up to Roosevelt's throwing his hat in the ring in the campaign of 1912. The joint appeal of the seven republican governors that he enter the contest was, it appears, arranged in advance for its political effect. The attitude of the author toward President Wilson and Secretary of War Baker is a hostile one, particularly in the matter of their refusal to accept Roosevelt's offer to lead volunteers to France. He quotes (page 271) a conversation overheard by him in 1912 in which Roosevelt admitted to Jack Greenway, a former Rough Rider, that he would be glad to die in battle fighting for his country. There are many Americans who think it a tragedy that he was deprived of that right. The book has a good index and a short bibliography, in which, strange to say, there is no mention of Bishop's book.

PAUL L. HAWORTH

My brother Theodore Roosevelt. By Corinne Roosevelt Robinson. (New York: Charles Scribner's sons, 1921. 365 p. \$3.00)

The author has succeeded in demonstrating more clearly than any other of Mr. Roosevelt's many biographers, that his greatest contribution to his country and his time was personality, was Theodore Roosevelt himself. With a difference of only three years in their ages, their relationships were most intimate for over fifty years. Moreover, Mrs. Robinson served as counselor to her brother during the several stages of his career and the conversations and letters between them, freely quoted,

serve to clarify the point of view of Mr. Roosevelt on problems affecting his life. The spirit of helpfulness, love of family, of friends, and of country, activity of mind, and ability for hard labor manifested by Mr. Roosevelt are especially stressed. Particularly notable are the accounts of the development of the progressive party (pages 266-272) and of the relation of the United States towards the war and the league of nations (page 276 ff.).

The spirit which seems to have permeated his life and which was emphasized many times through addresses and letters was, as the author states, best summarized in the following letter from President Roosevelt, written in 1905 to the Provençal poet Frédéric Mistral (pages 234, 235). "You are teaching the lesson that none need more to learn than we of the West, we of the eager, restless, wealth-seeking nation; the lesson that after a certain not very high level of material well-being has been reached, then the things that really count in life are the things of the spirit. Factories and railways are good up to a certain point, but courage and endurance, love of wife and child, love of home and country, love of lover for sweetheart, love of beauty in man's work and in nature, love and emulation of daring and of lofty endeavour, the homely work-a-day virtues and the heroic virtues — these are better still, and if they are lacking, no piled-up riches, no roaring, clanging industrialism, no feverish and many-sided activity shall avail either the individual or the nation."

J. A. J.

The University of Michigan. By Wilfred Shaw. (New York: Harcourt, Brace and Howe, 1920. 364 p. \$4.00)

For eighteen years Mr. Shaw has served the University of Michigan and served it well. He knows its history, its traditions, and its student life. In spite of his attempts at modesty, he believes it to be the greatest of all state universities; in fact, he probably believes that, with perhaps the exception of Harvard, Michigan is the greatest of American universities. This is as it should be for a secretary of an alumni association, and no doubt many people would agree with him. Mr. Shaw says frankly, "It has not been the purpose of the author to write a history of the University of Michigan." What then was his purpose? Fortunately he has told us. "To chronicle in brief the main events in Michigan's history; to suggest their significance; to picture the life of the students and Faculties; and to set forth the University's real measure of success, in order that all who are interested in the University may know her and understand her ideals and traditions, is the aim of the following chapters."

In spite of the fact that the author lays no claim to being an historian,